

REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement, applicants hereby elect the claims of Group II (claims 6-9, 26, 27, 29 and 34; drawn to isolated polypeptides) and the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 15. As indicated, for example, in Table 1 (page 14) of the specification, SEQ ID NO: 15 is encoded by the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3.

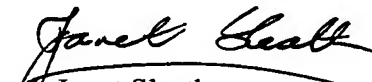
Claims 1-5, 10-24, 30, 32 and 33 have been withdrawn as being drawn to a non-elected invention. Claim 6 has been amended to remove reference to withdrawn claim 1. Claims 7 and 9 have been amended to remove reference to non-elected sequences. Claims 25, 26, 28, 29, 31 and 34 have been amended to replace reference to claims 7-9 with reference to claims 6-9, and claim 27 has been amended to correct a typographical error.

It is urged that support for all the above amendments may be found throughout the specification as originally filed and that none of the amendments constitute new matter. It is further submitted that the amendments are not being made for reasons of patentability and therefore do not give rise to prosecution history estoppel.

Applicants hereby reserve the right to rejoin method claims 25, 28 and 35 with the elected product claims once the product claims are found to be allowable.

Favorable consideration of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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